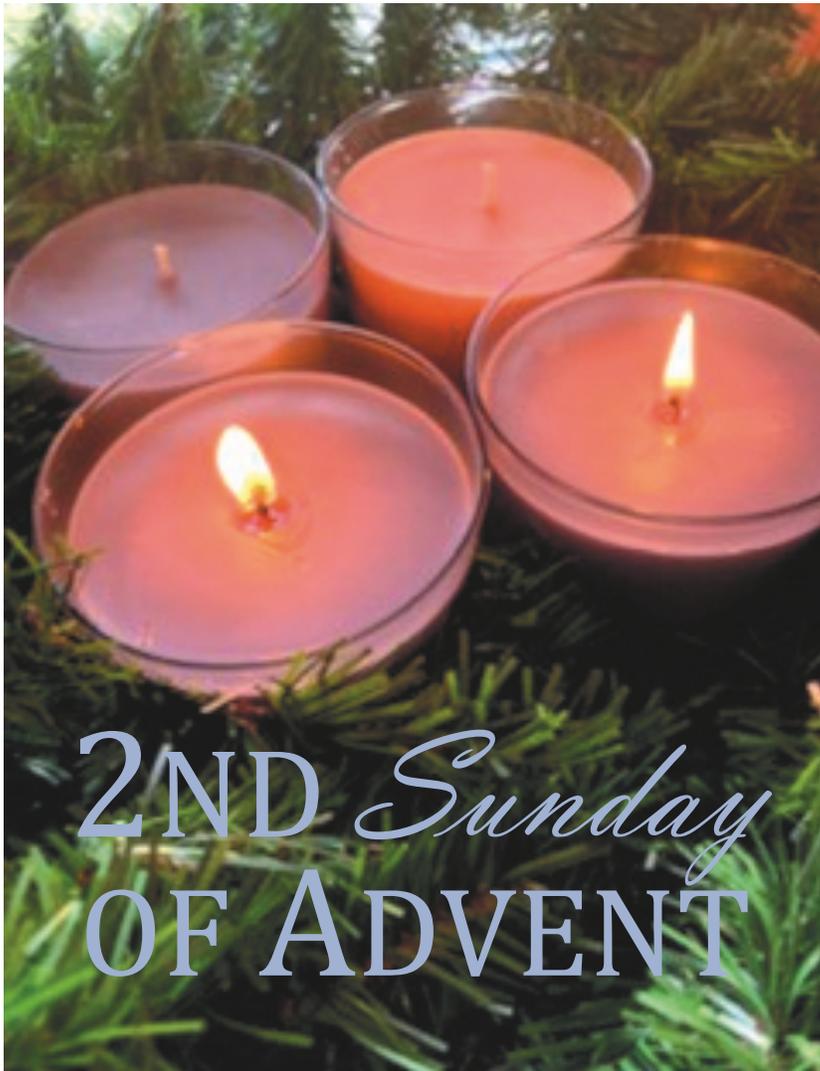


# ST. ADALBERT

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

BEREA, OHIO • ESTABLISHED 1873

DECEMBER 6, 2020



## CONTACT US

St. Adalbert Church  
66 Adalbert St. | Berea, OH 44017  
(440) 234-6830 |  
[www.saintadalbertparish.org](http://www.saintadalbertparish.org)  
[www.facebook.com/StAdalbertBerea](https://www.facebook.com/StAdalbertBerea)

## MASS TIMES

Mon, Wed, Fri | 8:30am  
Tues, Thurs | 6:30pm  
Saturday Vigil | 4:30pm  
Sunday | 8:30am, 10:00am, 11:30am &  
7:00pm Newman Mass— open to all

## CONFESSIONS

Tuesday & Thursday | 5:30 - 6:15pm  
Saturday | 3:00 - 4:00pm

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesdays | 9:00am - 6:30pm Mass

## SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM, MATRIMONY, ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please contact the office to schedule

## PARISH REGISTRATION

Please contact the office.

## PARISH CLERGY

Rev. Charles Butkowsky  
*Pastor, ext 224*

Rev. Michael Brunovsky, OSB  
*Weekend Associate*  
[michael@cbhs.edu](mailto:michael@cbhs.edu)

Rev. Gerald Keller  
*Pastor Emeritus*

Deacon Edmund Gardias  
*Permanent Deacon, ext 227*  
[deacongardias@saintadalbertparish.org](mailto:deacongardias@saintadalbertparish.org)

## PARISH STAFF

Megan Lowes-Bolin  
*Director of Faith Formation, ext 247*  
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*Facilities Assistant*

Regina Cepelnik  
*Secretary ext 221*  
[office@saintadalbertparish.org](mailto:office@saintadalbertparish.org)

## OUR PARISH

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

8:30 AM **William Schwab** (Deacon & Joan)  
10:00 AM **Parishioners of St. Adalbert**  
11:30 AM **Ronald J Victor** (Teresa Victor & Family)  
7:00 PM Newman Mass

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

8:30 AM **John Zajaczkowski** (Alyce Schwarzwaldler)  
7:00 PM VIGIL **Rita Bellido** (Parish Friends)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8 *IMMACULATE CONCEPTION*

8:30 AM **Derek Thornburg**  
(Grandpa Edwin & Grandma Dianne)  
7:00 PM **Eugene Koprowski** (Kellogg Family)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

8:30 AM **Emrhein, Smolinski & Bielawski Families**  
(William & Dee Emrhein)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

6:30 PM **Jean Phelps** (Stepic Family)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

8:30 AM **Chester Nowak** (Friends)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

4:30 PM **Larry Zjaba** (Wife)

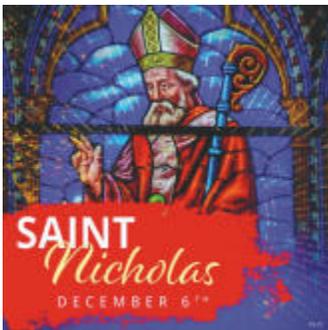
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

8:30 AM **Anthony Bryda** (Kathy & Mike Bryda)  
10:00 AM **Parishioners of St. Adalbert**  
11:30 AM **Mr. & Mrs. Conrad Sattler** (Aimee Sattler)  
7:00 PM Newman Mass

### SAINT ANDREW CHRISTMAS NOVENA

Tradition holds that if one says the following prayer 15 times a day, from the feast of St. Andrew (Nov 30) until Christmas Day, will obtain the favor prayed for:

**Hail, and blessed be the hour and moment at which the Son of God was born of a most pure Virgin at a stable at midnight in Bethlehem in the piercing cold. At that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, to hear my prayers and grant my desires. (Mention your intentions here) Through Jesus Christ and His most Blessed Mother. Amen.**



*Happy Feast Day*

*St. Nicholas!*

*December 6*

*Patron saint of bakers and children*



**Masses at St. Adalbert Monday December 7 Vigil,  
7:00 PM**

**Tuesday, December 8, 8:30 AM and 7:00 PM**

This feast was a holy day of obligation, however the USCCB's dispensation of the Mass obligation is still in effect.

### ADVENT VESPERS

Vespers is an ancient evening prayer service observed by the Orthodox, Roman and Eastern Catholic Churches. We pray evening prayer in thanksgiving and praise to God for the blessings we have been given.



During the four weeks of Advent, we will pray evening prayer this year on the Sundays of November 29th and December 6th, 13th and 20th at 6:00PM. The Newman Mass will follow at 7:00pm.

All are welcome to join in this service as we wait in joyful anticipation of the coming of our Lord.

**A FRIENDLY REMINDER** West Side Catholic Center (1/4 size sheet tags) and items need to be returned by today, Dec 6, by the end of the 11:30 am Mass, **unwrapped please.**

St. Vincent de Paul and Absolute House gifts (smaller yellow or green tags) need to be returned **wrapped please** by next Sunday, Dec 13 by the end of the 11:30 am Mass in order to distribute in time for Christmas.

Additionally, if anyone would like to donate a ham or turkey to a family, please contact the office 440-234-6830 ext 228. Please also remember any non perishable food items or toiletries for our pantry.



**DEACON ED GARDIAS**  
 RCIA Coordinator, Adult Education Leader,  
 Sacramental Preparation  
 440-234-6830 ext. 227  
[deacongardias@saintadalbertparish.org](mailto:deacongardias@saintadalbertparish.org)

**MEGAN LOWES-BOLIN**  
 Director of Faith Formation  
 440-234-6830 ext. 247  
[mlowes-bolin@saintadalbertparish.org](mailto:mlowes-bolin@saintadalbertparish.org)

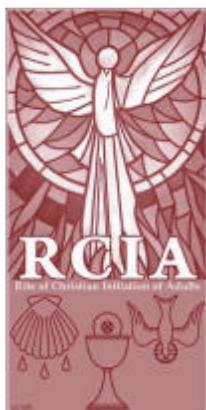
**BIBLE STUDY**

Continuing on Wednesdays until February, a new Bible Study series will be offered on the **GOSPEL OF MARK**. Each Wednesday, a morning session will be presented at 9:00AM and repeated at 6:30PM in the John Paul II Room with Deacon Ed. We are limiting occupancy to 10 people per session, so please contact Deacon Ed to reserve your spot. [deacongardias@saintadalbertparish.org](mailto:deacongardias@saintadalbertparish.org)



**RCIA**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults provides a process through which adults can learn about the Catholic faith before entering into full communion with the church. This year, St. Adalbert Parish has three adults attending the weekly gatherings; please keep Amanda Varn, Brad Pollard and Loren Reash-Henz in your prayers, as they continue their spiritual journey.



**“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.” Mark 1:3**

**ADVENT FAMILY SERVICE PROJECT – “BLESSING BAGS”**

All families are invited to join us in a special Advent Family Service Project – “Blessing Bags.”

We invite families to grab a white gift bag from the lobby of the Church or in the parish office. Inside each of the bags, there is a blank card and craft to put together. Families are invited to decorate the white gift bag, make a Christmas card and put the craft together. All completed “Blessing Bags” are to be brought back to the parish by Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

The “Blessing Bags” will be distributed to members of our parish family, including those who are homebound, recently lost a loved one or simply need to be reminded that their parish family is thinking of them during the Christmas season.

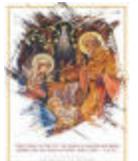
We are also looking for any volunteers who would be interested in dropping the Blessing Bags off at parishioner comes. (No contact delivery!) If you are interested, please contact Megan at [mlowes-bolin@SaintAdalbertParish.org](mailto:mlowes-bolin@SaintAdalbertParish.org)

**FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

**Next Session Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**

Our next Family Faith Formation Gathering is Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. This month, we will be having an Advent Prayer service through Zoom. Parents – please check your emails for additional details!

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY: ADVENT BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES THIS WEEK!**



All high school students are invited to join us for a Bible Study on Zoom, which will take place on Wednesday December 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

The Advent Bible will focus on the Infancy Narratives, preparing our hearts for the birth of our Savior.

To receive the Zoom login information, please email Megan at [mlowes-bolin@saintadalbertparish.org](mailto:mlowes-bolin@saintadalbertparish.org)

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY: NEXT SESSION – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>**

All high school students are invited to join us for our next Youth Ministry gathering on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-2:00pm in the Keller Center. Lunch will be provided!

One of the best ways we can prepare for the birth of our savior is through cleansing our hearts, minds and souls. The theme for the day will be focused on how to make “an adult” Confession. Fr. Chuck will lead a reflection on what it means to making a meaningful and heartfelt confession, helping us grow closer in our relationship with God.

To help us make sure we get enough food, please RSVP to Megan at [mlowes-bolin@SaintAdalbertParish.org](mailto:mlowes-bolin@SaintAdalbertParish.org)

# LITURGY FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *Populus Sion*

**O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.**

Antiphon text: *Roman Missal* ICEL ©2010, All rights reserved.

## READING I **ISAIAH 40:1-5, 9-11**

A Reading from the book of Isaiah,  
Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God.  
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her  
that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated;  
indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD  
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the  
LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our  
God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and  
hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a  
plain, the rough country, a broad valley.  
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together;  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings;  
cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of  
good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of  
Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power  
the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his  
reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a  
shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the  
lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes  
with care.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM **PSALM 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14**

**R. (Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.**

V. I will hear what God proclaims;  
the LORD—for he proclaims peace to his people.  
Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him,  
glory dwelling in our land. **R/**

V. Kindness and truth shall meet;  
justice and peace shall kiss.  
Truth shall spring out of the earth,  
and justice shall look down from heaven. **R/**

V. The LORD himself will give his benefits;  
our land shall yield its increase.  
Justice shall walk before him,  
and prepare the way of his steps. **R/**

## READING II

## 2 PETER 3:8-14

A Reading from the 2nd book of Peter

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord  
one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years  
like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as  
some regard “delay,” but he is patient with you, not  
wishing that any should perish but that all should come  
to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a  
thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty  
roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the  
earth and everything done on it will be found out.

Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort  
of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in  
holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the  
coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens  
will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by  
fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens  
and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.  
Therefore, beloved, since you await these things,  
be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him,  
at peace.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

## LUKE 3:4, 6

**R: Alleluia, alleluia.**

V: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his  
paths: All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

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## GOSPEL

## MARK 1:1-8

The Lord be with you, **And with your spirit**

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark

**Glorify to you, O Lord**

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of  
God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:  
*Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;  
he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in  
the desert: “Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight his paths.”*

John the Baptist appeared in the desert  
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness  
of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all  
the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and  
were being baptized by him in the Jordan River

*Continued pg 5*

**continued from pg 4**

as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

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**THE NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (all bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

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**OFFERTORY ANTIPHON *Deus, tu convertens***

**R: You will turn to us, O God, and restore our life, and your people shall rejoice in you.**

V: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and grant us your salvation. **R/**

V: O LORD, you have favored your land, and brought back the captives of Jacob. You forgave the guilt of your people. **R/**

V: I will hear what the LORD God speaks; he speaks of peace for his people and his faithful, and those who turn their hearts to him. His salvation is near for those who fear him, and his glory will dwell in our land. **R/**

V: Merciful love and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have kissed. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth, and justice look down from heaven. **R/**

V: Also the LORD will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase. Justice will march before him, and guide his steps on the way. **R/**

Antiphon text: Second Sunday of Advent Offertory Chant, Graduale Romanum. Verses: Psalm 85: 8, 2-3a, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14.. The Revised Grail Psalms Copyright © 2010, Conception Abbey/The Grail, admin. by GIA Publications, Inc., www.giamusic.com All rights reserved.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *Jerusalem, surge***

**R: Rise up, Jerusalem, stand on the heights, and see the joy that is coming to you from God.**

V: O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! Zion praise your God! He has strengthened the bars of your gates, he has blessed the children within you. **R/**

V: He established peace on your borders, he feeds you with finest wheat. He sends out his word to the earth and swiftly runs his command. **R/**

V: He hurls down hailstones like crumbs. The waters are frozen at his touch; he sends forth his word and it melts them: at the breath of his mouth the waters flow. **R/**

V: He makes his word known to Jacob, to Israel his laws and decrees. He has not dealt thus with other nations; he has not taught them his decrees. **R /**

Antiphon text: Second Sunday of Advent Communion Antiphon © 1985 ICEL *The Sacramentary*. Verses: Psalm 147: 12-15, 17-20 *The Revised Grail Psalms* Copyright © 2010, Conception Abbey/The Grail, admin. by GIA Publications, Inc., www.giamusic.com All rights reserved.

**ST. MICHAEL PRAYER**

St. Michael the archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God cast into hell, satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

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## THE MOST POWERFUL WOMAN IN THE WORLD

It is wisdom that the Church begins the New Year with Mary, the Holy Mother of God as its portal. For Mary is clothed in the wonder of history. She is the iconic feminine figure who has been shaped with maternal care from the most sketchy of Scriptures. Of her we know so little from the text. Even Paul only mentions her once in all his works and that is minimal. Mary would have it that way, self-effacing as she seemed. Paul's words are in the context of her *magnum opus*: birthing the Savior. "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to ransom those under the law, so that we might receive adoption" (Galatians 4:4-5). For Paul, Mary is nameless.



Not so today. In December of 2015, *National Geographic* placed Mary on its front cover with the banner, "Mary: The Most Powerful Woman in the World". *Time* Magazine, in the March 21, 2005 issue, also placed Mary on its cover with the header: "Hail, Mary". The news here brought the Protestant search for Mary into full view. And *Newsweek* selected Mary for its cover in an August 1997 issue.

I saved them all. My own love for the Blessed Mother is not without noting; and scripturally I have often wondered how a woman with such humble beginnings could become the most painted image reflecting and reinforcing social and religious change throughout all of history. There are brilliant artistic depictions of Mary at every point in her Son's life. I have Fra Angelico's *Annunciation* on a well-traveled hallway wall in my home. The Nativity, the discovery of her Son in the Temple, the wedding feast at Cana, Mary at the cross of her Son, Mary with the apostles at Pentecost, and countless portraits of the Madonna and Child—each with its own intimate beauty—find their way into ancient cathedral windows as well as into the desperate homes of the poor.

In recent times, the outpouring of devotion to Mary has swelled once again. Rev. Michael Gaitley's do-it-yourself retreat in preparation for Marian consecration (33 Days to Morning Glory) boasts two million copies in print—including my own bookshelf and in the hands of countless people I know who want to "grow their spiritual lives" under the mantle of Mary, the Mother of God! So, why is Mary so popular?

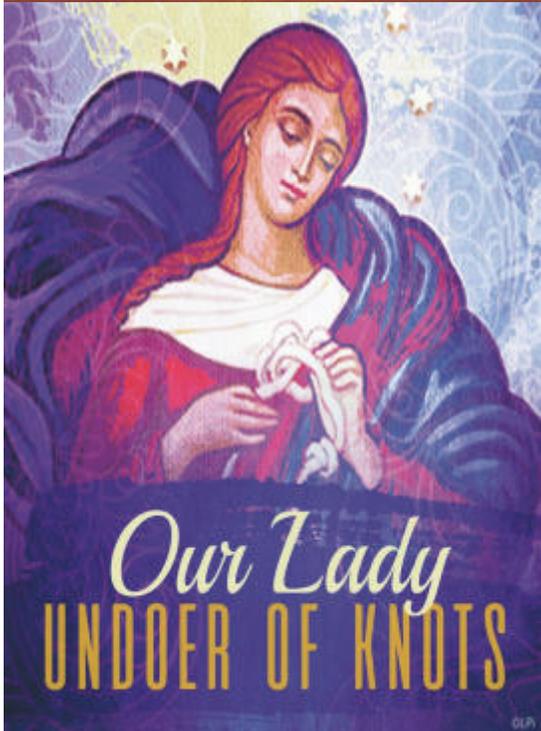
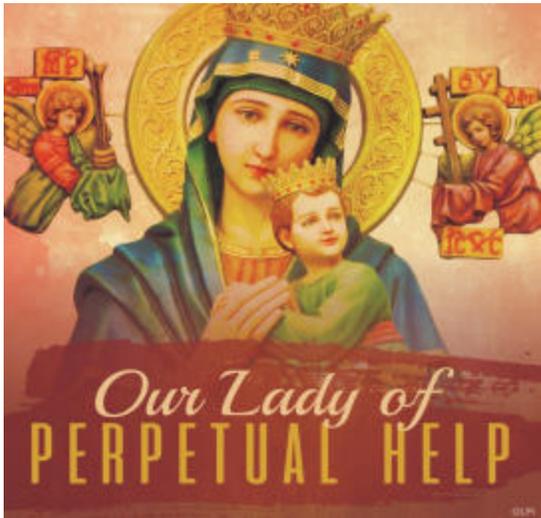
First, Mary loves us as her Son loves us. She has a knowing eye upon the world from her celestial residence and often enters history in order to forewarn the people that war and strife are at hand. Those warnings are accompanied by invitations to prayer and turning away from sin. She is a kind of prophetic female John the Baptist who senses imminent need among the people. In Kibeho, Rwanda, between 1981 and 1989, three young visionaries saw hideous images of genocide as Mary appeared to them, warning them of the horror that was to come. Mary called herself the Mother of the Word and stressed that people pray and turn from sin. The visions preceded the Rwanda massacres that began in 1994... [The Vatican has declared this vision valid.]

Second, in our culture of materialism, narcissism, racism, sexism, and all the other "isms" that define a mindset of bias, Mary models for us compassion, mercy, and, above all, the embrace of the poor. She continues to sing her Magnificat announcing a God who casts down the mighty from their thrones and who lifts up the lowly. It was to a poor Indian who lived in Guadalupe, Mexico, that she appeared in 1531. Mary asked Juan Diego to tell Bishop Zumarraga to build a church outside Mexico City. After a life-size image of the Virgin was miraculously imprinted on Diego's tilma, the bishop complied. Juan's mantle is encased in said cathedral even now as a reminder to the millions who go there that Mary comes among the poor, to draw all persons to her Son, Jesus. We know this Mary as Our Lady of Guadalupe.



Again, it was to a poor young girl in Massabielle, a grotto near Lourdes, France, that Mary came in 1858. Here Mary overrode the skepticism of a Church hierarchy by appearing to a child, Bernadette. Mary asked that a church be built at Lourdes where waters would flow offering hope to millions who pilgrimage there each year. Here where Mary referred to herself as the Immaculate Conception, the wretched flesh and bones of men and women who suffer find their downcast spirits freed to hope once again.

Finally, Mary offers to the human soul respite in times of travail. Whether devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help or to the recently popularized Our Lady Undoer of Knots, people continue to supplicate to the Blessed Mother for her intercession. When at the wedding feast of life it becomes evident that there is a terrible lack, folks are wont to go to Mary and tell her, "There is



no wine.” “There is no hope, there is no possibility, there is no solution, there is no peace, there is no love ... but you who have recourse to your Son, Jesus, you can ask him and he shall take note of the situation on your behalf!” It is a strange perspective, but one that somehow gives hope to the despairing. Beneath the mantle of her love, there is love. Prayer uncovers it.

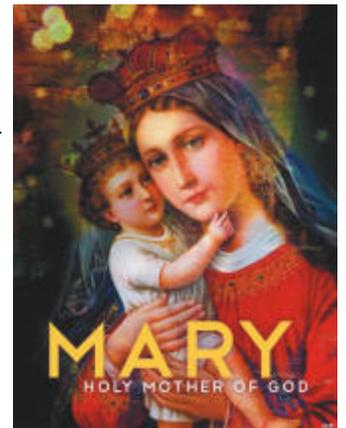
When the world turns its face away from God and the things of God, then it seems Mary comes, offering a corrective and an invitation to return to her Son, Jesus. Though the visions at Medjugorje that began in 1981 and continue today have not been officially approved by the Vatican, one cannot deny the fact that twenty million people that visited there and continue to visit there seek a closer walk with her Son. They may go seeking signs and wonders, but on their return, they have found Christ; they have found peace. Mary’s invitation goes further as well, warning the world that peace will topple if hearts are not cleansed. At Medjugorje, Mary refers to herself there as Queen of Peace.

It is consoling to know that Mary cradles the world still. It is consoling to know that in 1846, eight years before Pope Pius IX proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, the Sixth Council of Baltimore formally chose the Blessed Virgin Mary conceived without sin as the Patroness of the United States.

And now, as the leadership of our country changes hands and huge paradigm shifts are on the horizon, it is reassuring to know that this mysterious woman, who birthed Christ, identified among the poor, misunderstood, humble and yet victorious, continues to intercede for the very people her Son came to save.

Through the portal of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, the New Year begins. The arc of her life is bent toward love and a simple warning to take hold of Christ, her Son, Jesus, whose life was given over for us all.

Mary K. Matestic, MTS © LPI



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